

# Notes:

Sermon Text

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Subject

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Spiritual “To Do List”

(things God has shown me today)

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Alan Gardiner, a missionary in 1851, was shipwrecked with others off the coast of South America. He was the last one still living. When his journal was found after his death, it quoted Psalm 34:10: “Young lions so lack and suffer hunger, but they that seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing.” Gardner wrote his last line: “I am overwhelmed with a sense of the goodness of God.”

All afflictions are designed to push the believer up to the heights above his circumstances, while still rejoicing in the Lord. Although some get bitter and angry, reintroducing God (whom they did not acknowledge before) into a philosophical debate over why He permits the righteous to suffer, the Christian abides in God’s steadfast love from the first signs of affliction to the end. You become like the object you worship. Jerry Bridges in his book *Trusting God* wrote: “We can be sure that the development of a beautiful, Christ-like character will not occur in our lives without adversity.”

How is this rejoicing obtained? It is realized by intentionality about one’s future. “Yet I *will* rejoice in the Lord,” the man of God says two times. Just as the apostle Paul wrote from prison, “Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say, rejoice!” Why? The best is yet to come.

—Dr. Bob Smart, <http://www.identityinchrist.co>  
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A young child with blonde hair, wearing a red shirt and blue shorts, is sitting on a large, flat, grey rock in a forest. The child is eating fruit from a white plate. The forest has tall, thin trees and a dirt path. The scene is peaceful and natural.

*They that seek the Lord  
shall not lack any good thing.*

*Psalm 34:10*

